

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are currently amending in the application; independent Claim 1 having been amended by way of the present response.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,442 to Maeda et al. (Maeda). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the claims have been overcome for the following reasons.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 2, 6-8, 10, 12, and 16-18 are allowed.

Applicants further express thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 3-5 and 13-15 recite allowable subject matter. Although the Office Action indicates that Claims 3-5 and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 3 and 13 are independent claims, and that Claims 4 and 5 and Claims 14 and 15 depend from the independent claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of Claims 3-5 and 13-15.

The present invention is directed to semiconductor power amplifiers for amplifying a high frequency signal inputted to a signal input terminal by first and second transistors connected in parallel to each other to output the amplified signal via a signal output terminal. As recited in independent Claim 1, a first capacitor element is connected between the signal input terminal and an input terminal of the first transistor. A second capacitor element is connected between the signal input terminal and an input terminal of the second transistor. One end of a resistor is connected directly to a

connection path between the first capacitor and the input terminal of the first transistor, and another end of the resistor is connected directly to a connection path between the second capacitor and the input terminal of the second transistor.

Maeda is directed to a divider/combiner. As shown in Figure 27, for example, of Maeda, as best understood by Applicants in view of the numerous typographical errors in the printed patent, a divider 2710 includes a phase shifter 2720. The phase shifter 2720 has a capacitor 2721, a resistor 2722, and a capacitor 2723 arranged in series and connected with FETs (i.e., transistors) 2240, 2244.¹

Applicants respectfully assert that Maeda does not teach, however, the claimed features of one end of a resistor connected directly to a connection path between a first capacitor and an input terminal of a first transistor, and another end of the resistor connected directly to a connection path between a second capacitor and an input terminal of a second transistor, as recited in independent Claim 1. Rather, Applicants respectfully asserts that Maeda shows the resistor 2722 connected with first sides of the capacitors 2721 and 2723, and second sides of the capacitors 2721 and 2723 connected with FETs 2240 and 2244, and does not show or state that the resistor 2722 has a first end connected between the capacitor 2721 and the FET 2240, and a second end connected between the capacitor 2723 and the FET 2244, for example.

Specifically, independent Claim 1 recites “a resistor, one end of which is connected directly to a connection path between the first capacitor and the input terminal of said first transistor, and another end of which is connected directly to a connection path between the second capacitor and the input terminal of said second transistor.” Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and the independent claim allowed.

¹From column 23, line 38 to column 24, line 15.

Appl No: 09/817,216
Reply to Office Action of October 29, 2003

Claims 9 and 11 depend from independent Claim 1, and are therefore also allowable for the same reasons as the independent claim, as well as for their own features. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of dependent Claims 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) be withdrawn and the dependent claims allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-18 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Customer Number
22850

Tel #: (703)413-3000
Fax #: (703)413-2220
EHK:PH:me

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Registration No. 28,870
Attorney of Record

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340

I:\ATTY\PH\20s\205263\205263_03012004.doc